

EXHIBIT 2

- This bill is not active in this session.

A00881 Memo:

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION
submitted in accordance with Assembly Rule III, Sec 1(f)

BILL NUMBER: A881A

SPONSOR: Gunther

TITLE OF BILL: An act to amend the education law, in relation to the establishment of school election wards in union free school districts and central school districts

PURPOSE:

To permit school districts, organized under articles 35 and 37 of the New York Education Law, to allow their voters the option to approve a referendum that will restrict the election of candidates to the board of education to the particular election district where those candidates and the voters of that particular election district reside.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:

Section 1-2: Authorizes boards of education to establish school election wards for purposes of electing individual school board members.

Section 3: Effective Date

EXISTING LAW:

Under current law, school districts may not restrict the election of candidates to the board of education to the particular election district where those candidates and the voters of that particular election district reside.

JUSTIFICATION:

School Districts in Upstate New York can encompass a wide geographical area. There are School Districts which span multiple counties and townships, and serve a diverse socio-economic community.

Under current law, union free school districts and central school districts, upon their own motion, may divide into separate election districts. However, current law does not permit a school district to restrict candidates to run for office only in the election district where they reside, or to limit voters to elect a candidate only from the election district where they reside. In order to prevent overrepresentation or underrepresentation of one geographical area over the other, this legislation would give voters the option to approve a referendum that will restrict the election of candidates to the board of education to the particular election district where those candidates and the voters of that particular election district reside.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

2015-16: A8163 reported to Ways & Means/S5846 passed Senate

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This act shall take effect immediately.